

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02494 161132Z

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FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1400

UNCLAS ALGIERS 2494

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BRRO, AG

SUBJ: ALGERIA, UNIVERSITY AND HOSPITAL PROJECTS

REF: ALGIERS 1652

1. SKIDMORE, OWENS & MERRILL REACHED AGREEMENT YESTERDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1974, ON CONTRACT FOR DESIGN OF UNIVERSITY AT BLIDA. NETSCH OF SKIDMORE ESTIMATES DESIGN FEES AT DOL. 3.6 MILLION. WORK ON DESIGN OF DOL. 42 MILLION UNIVERSITY WILL START IN DECEMBER.

2. DNC/ANP, ALGERIAN ARMY CONSTRUCTION COOPERATIVE, HAS TOO MUCH WORK TO DO BLIDA UNIVERSITY CONSTRUCTION, SO NETSCH BELIEVES ALGERIANS WILL SEEK INTERNATIONAL BIDS. SINCE MORRISON & KNUDSEN ALREADY WORKING IN BLIDA, SKIDMORE WILL CONTACT THEM. NETSCH ALSO NOTED THAT FRILLS HAD BEEN TAKEN OUT OF UNIVERSITY PLAN AS INCREASED FOREIGN COSTS CUT INTO ALGERIAN PLANS.

3. GHEDIRI OF MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EQUIPMENT WILL NOT CAST LIGHT ON STATUS OF TWO UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL PROJECTS. GHEDIRI SAYS CONTRACT IS DELAYED BY REBUDGETING BETWEEN MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH. UNOFFICIALLY WE HEAR HOSPITAL CONTRACTS ARE WAITING RESULTS FROM ARMY HOSPITAL CONTRACT WON BY BLOCK, MCGIBONY INTERNATIONAL.

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